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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Romania

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SUBJECT 1. Shortage of Dental Materials in Rumania
2. Organization of Medical and Dental Services

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1. Since 1945 there have been shortages of good quality medicines, dental materials for fillings, dental instruments, and foreign medical and dental magazines. Every two or three months the Minister of Health sponsored a conference where a demonstration was given of a certain kind of treatment, such as extraction of a bad tooth, treatment of gangrene, et cetera. During the lectures, examples were given of Soviet dentistry.
2. Use of materials of other than Soviet origin was discouraged. Informant heard of a doctor being arrested for telling a patient that American penicillin was superior to the Soviet brand. Informant heard that American penicillin in Rumania has "made in Israel" written on it.
3. A medical and dental service was organized in factories and state institutions where there were at least 1,500 employees. Extractions were made, and false teeth were prepared by these services. However, the number of dentists was inadequate, and the material for the work was difficult to acquire and was of poor quality.
4. The institutions where the dental work was done most correctly were the National Bank, the CFR (Ceile Ferate Romane - Rumanian Railroads), the Telephone Company, the Soldiers Home, and the clinic attached to the Bucharest Medical School where model work was done by the professors and students. These institutions obtained the necessary dental materials from England and France.
5. In Bucharest there were clinics and dispensaries where extractions were made, and, more rarely, where false teeth were prepared. In the villages medical dispensaries were able to give only preventive assistance. Since 1946, when a law regulating dental practice was passed, certain categories of dentists were required to spend some time in the villages.

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